

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 10 as follows:

The network 2 may be the Internet or any other type of communication network. The devices deployed on the network 2 include a web server 4 and web clients 3 and 5. The web clients 3 and 5 are, for example, personal computers with the capability to make access to the web client server 4 and request desired information. The web server 4, built on an appropriate server machine platform, responds to those requests from the web clients 3 and 5 by sending the requested information back to them.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 19, as follows:

The above mechanism of the proposed network monitoring system 1 works as follows. The network administrator first determines which monitoring policy to choose in operating the network 2, thus establishing a particular monitoring policy in the monitoring policy setting unit 1a. When the administrator commands the system 1 to start monitoring the network 2, the monitoring unit 1b identifies which network objects are to be monitored, by referring to the policy data in the monitoring policy setting unit 1a. The monitoring unit 1b then starts monitoring the objects at predetermined intervals.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 12, as follows:

The communication controller 20a performs protocol translation and data format conversion for the purpose of communication with other devices on the network

16. The monitoring unit 20b, a function provided mainly by as-the CPU 19a shown in FIG. 4, watches a specified set of objects according to predetermined monitoring rules stored in the database 20f. The event receiver 20c, a function provided by the interface 19f, receives messages from the objects which indicate the occurrence of a spontaneous event.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 30, line 26, as follows:

(S14) The CPU 19a retrieves ~~form~~from the HDD 19d a record relevant to the object or item specified at step S13.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 32, line 22, as follows:

(S39) The CPU 19a determines how long, or for how many intervals, the same SL grade has been maintained. If the intervals ~~amounts~~amount to a critical duration specified in a relevant policy record stored in the HDD 19d, the process advances to step S40. Otherwise, the process returns to step 32, thus repeating the above-described steps.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 33, line 9, as follows:

(S41) In the case the SL grade stays at the same level for a certain number of intervals, the system may apply some predetermined rules that specify some related resources whose allocation should be changed. If this is the case, the CPU 19a

changes the allocation of such related resources, consulting relevant rules stored in the

HDD 19d.